AVATAR

The Last Airbender

Show #321

BOOK THREE: Fire
CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE: "Sozin's Comet, Part 4: Avatar Aang"

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ACT ONE

EXT. FOREST FLOOR - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

Aang still desperately hides inside the rock sph

ere, while Ozai blasts it from the outside with a deluge of fire.

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(mocking)
Come on out, Avatar! You can't hide in there forever!

EXT. ATOP VARIOUS AIRSHIPS - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

Sokka and Toph run along the spine of an airship and arrive at the rear.

SOKKA
Toph, Metalbend the rudder so it's jammed in a turning position. The ship will spiral and slam into the others.

TOPH
Got it!

TOPH (cont'd)
(Spitting Sounds)

TOPH (cont'd)
(Struggling Sounds)

FIRE NATION SOLDIERS
(AAAHS/OOOHS)

Toph bends the rudder into position. The ship they ride starts to veer off course, steering towards a neighboring ship.

SOKKA
Have I ever mentioned how sweet it is that you invented Metalbending?

TOPH
You could stand to mention it more.

TOPH/SOKKA
(Ahhhhhh)

Suddenly a Firebender pops out of a hatch close by and shoots at Sokka and Toph.

Sokka tackles Toph and they dive out of the way of the massive fire blast, just in time. The pair rolls down the cylindrical side of the airship, gaining speed, while the Firebender continues to fire at them. As she rolls, Toph Metalbends a hole in the envelope of the airship, and she and Sokka roll inside. They are safe from the fire blasts, but now they plummet through the cavernous space inside the airship.

SOKKA/TOPH
AAAHHH!!!

Toph breaks their fall with Metalbending and they tear through the bottom side of the ship. Sokka crumples onto the catwalk, but Toph dangles over the edge hanging onto Sokka's hand.

SOKKA
(AAAAH)

SOKKA (cont'd)
Ah, my leg! Hang on, Toph!

TOPH
Aye aye, Captain!

Sokka is hurt from the fall and he can't get up, but he holds onto Toph for dear life. They are sitting ducks, and supercharged Firebenders perched along the catwalk take aim!

The Firebenders are about to shoot at Sokka and Toph. With his one free arm, Sokka throws his boomerang and bonks one Firebender on the helmet, knocking him off his platform and leaving him dangling on his safety line. He picks up his sword.

TOPH (cont'd)
(OOF)

FIRE NATION SOLDIER
(OOF)

FIRE NATION SOLDIER (cont'd)
(OOF)

SOKKA
(emotional)
Bye, space sword.

SOKKA/TOPH
(STRUGGLING NOISES)

Sokka turns and throws his sword in the opposite direction, slicing another Firebender's catwalk in half and causing him to dangle helplessly as well. Sokka is out of ammo, and more Firebenders close in.

SOKKA
(straining)
I don't think Boomerang is coming back, Toph. It looks like this is the end.

Toph pulls herself high enough to press her face to Sokka's hand, and a tear runs down her cheek. Just before the decisive moment, the horn of an airship crashes into the catwalk, cutting off the threatening Firebenders. Sokka and Toph roll off their old ship, landing safely on the top of the newly arrived ship. They embrace, celebrating their new lease on life.

FIRE NATION SOLDIERS
(HUH SOUND)

TOPH
(OOFS)

SOKKA
(OOFS)

SOKKA/TOPH
(JOYFUL LAUGHS AND WHOOPS)

TOPH
How did that happen -- did Boomerang come back?

Sokka looks towards the back of the ship and sees Suki waving, holding a rope with a grappling hook on the end, pulling the rudder so the ships flies off course. Sokka waves back and smiles.

SOKKA
No. Suki did.

EXT. FOREST FLOOR - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

Aang still desperately hides inside the rock sphere, while Ozai blasts it from the outside with a deluge of fire. Ozai BREATHES IN, and we do another shot of the COMET, similar to when we saw Uncle blast through the wall at Ba Sing Se -- Ozai is drawing in all the power he can and he unleashes an UNBELIEVABLE BLAST that shatters Aang's cocoon and sends him reeling...

Aang somehow strikes his SCAR directly, triggering a massive chi-shock flashback reaction, visually similar to what he experienced in the healing sequence with Katara in 3.01. We see a series of FLASHES starting with Azula shocking him from 2.20, him coming out of the iceberg, him at the air temple when all of the statue's eyes light up, etc. Culminating in a series of never before seen shots of past Avatars inducing the Avatar state -- this is the Avatar spirits of all the past Avatars turning back on inside of Aang.

Ozai saunters over to the pile of rocks, arrogant and savoring his imminent victory. As he sifts through the rock, he taunts Aang, whom he thinks is helpless.

AANG
(Ahhhhh)

PHOENIX KING OZAI
Come on out, little boy. You're about to be --

Ozai is interrupted as Aang's hand, sporting a glowing tattoo, bursts from the rock and grabs his goatee! Avatar Aang emerges from the rubble and launches Ozai with an Airbending blast back several hundred feet. A completely shocked Ozai finally skids to a stop and tries to recover. As he looks up he is met with a commanding image: Aang floats right before him, eyes and tattoos aglow, orbited by each of the four elements like a human atom. He looks like the pinnacle of all Avatars! Ozai is aghast!

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(OOF)

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(OOF)

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(STRUGGLING SOUNDS)

BUMI
(FUNNY REACTION NOISES)

BUMI (cont'd)
(EFFORT SOUNDS/KICKING SOUNDS)

FIRE NATION SOLDIER
(WOOZY SOUNDS/THROW UP SOUND)

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(IMPACT SOUND)

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(AAAAAH!)

EXT. CORONATION PLAZA - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

Zuko lies in a heap, struggling to breathe and stay conscious. Azula chases Katara away from Zuko's aid through the now-ruined plaza, launching oversized, wild fire blasts and lightning strikes at her heels.

KATARA
(INHALE/PANTING NOISES)

AZULA
(CRAZY LAUGH)

ZUKO
(GROANS/STRUGGLING NOISES)

KATARA
(LANDING NOISE)

KATARA (cont'd)
(CRAZY LAUGH)

AZULA
I'd really rather our family physician look after little Zu-zu, if you don't mind!

AZULA (cont'd)
Zuzu, you don't look so good.

AZULA (cont'd) *
(EFFORT SOUND)

Katara makes a mad dash towards the reflecting pools full of water, but Azula blocks her path with an explosion. Katara jumps behind a column just in time, out of breath. Just then, she notices that she is on top of a metal grate, and under the grate is water! She steals a glance around the column to see a row of these grates leading out into the plaza towards the reflecting pools. There is water running beneath the plaza! Katara looks around for something else, a plan forming in her head. She spots it: a coil of chain on a nearby torch. Azula springs into view and resumes her hunt!

KATARA
(FALLING NOISE)

AZULA
There you are, filthy peasant!
(CRAZY LAUGH)

KATARA
(LONG YOGA BREATH)

AZULA/KATARA
(GASPS)

AZULA
(RESTRAINED GRRR)

ZUKO
(GROAN)

ZUKO (cont'd)
(GROAN)

ZUKO (cont'd)
(STRAINING NOISE)

Katara extracts just enough water from the nearby grate to bend it into Azula's face and buy herself a few precious seconds. Katara zigzags, grabbing the chain and simultaneously luring Azula over one of the grates, in close proximity to herself. Azula thrusts her hand out to strike -- but suddenly water bursts up through the grate and flagstones as Katara encases them both in a solid block of ice! Azula's fingers are frozen just inches from Katara's nose! After a tense still beat, the ice around Katara melts and she swims through the ice block, around behind Azula, shackling her with the chains. Katara melts the entire ice block and they both GASP for air as Katara tethers the chains. She rushes to Zuko's aid, reviving him with her Waterbending healing. It is a tender moment as she heals the young man who saved her life so selflessly.

ZUKO (cont'd)
(weak)
Thank you, Katara.

KATARA
(teary)
I think I'm the one who should be thanking you.

The ensnared Azula thrashes like a feral animal, breathing fire in desperation. Katara helps Zuko stand and they walk over to where Azula is tethered. As Katara and Zuko watch with pained faces, Azula finally snaps, going from feral animal to bumbling crazy person.

AZULA
(WILD SCREAMS INTO PATHETIC
BUMBLING AND CRYING)

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. STRATOSPHERE

The comet tears through the atmosphere in an apocalyptic scene. Fire spreads out all around the sky in the wake of its path. It is intense!

EXT. FOREST FLOOR - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

The comet flies directly overhead. Note: AVATAR AANG denotes the multi-layered voice of all the Avatars, rather than just Aang's sole voice.

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(AAAAH)

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(AAAAH)

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(AAAAH)

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(GASP)

AVATAR AANG
(MIGHTY ROAR)

Ozai tries to attack, but Avatar Aang bats the fire away and counterattacks tenfold. He swats Ozai around the forest with overwhelming combo-element moves. Ozai gets his comeuppance and a taste of his own medicine all wrapped into one! This is the butt spanking we have all been waiting to see! Ozai is exhausted on the ground, and Avatar Aang looms over him.

AVATAR AANG (cont'd)
Firelord Ozai, you and your forefathers have devastated the balance of this world. And now you shall pay the ultimate price!

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(PAINED NOISE)

EXT. FOREST FLOOR - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

Avatar Aang raises his hand to smite Ozai once and for all, but suddenly Aang's tattoos and eyes stop glowing. The orbiting elements fall to the ground or dissipate. Aang lowers to the ground and speaks in his own, solitary voice.

AANG
No, I'm not going to end it like this.

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(disgusted)
Even with all of the power in the world, you are still weak.

Ozai gets a second wind and tries to seize the moment, resuming his attack. Now that they are in close proximity, Aang uses his evasive Airbending "Ba Gua" footwork to spiral around and over and under Ozai (in the fashion we have seen him deal with many an adversary). Aang works his way behind Ozai and Earthbends restraints on his limbs. Aang steps to the front of Ozai, who tries to breathe fire at him. Aang redirects the flame and places his fingers at various pressure points on Ozai's head and chest. Ozai freezes in place, with a look of surprise on his face.

FLASHBACK TO: Aang with the Lion-Turtle, in a continuation of their scene from 319. The Lion-Turtle gently places the tips of his claws at the same pressure points on Aang and speaks in a supernatural voice.

LION-TURTLE
In the era before the Avatar, we bent not the elements, but the energy within ourselves.

The Lion-Turtle's eyes and mouth start to glow in a familiar fashion.

BACK TO THE PRESENT: It looks like Aang is again slipping into the Avatar state - his eyes and tattoos glow - but then we see the lighting reverse and his energy flips to the outside - now his whole body is glowing.

LION-TURTLE (V.O.) (cont'd)
To bend another's energy, your own spirit must be unbendable -- or you will be corrupted and destroyed.

Aang's cycling energy starts to pull energy out of Ozai - now the Firelord's own eyes start glowing and his energy flips inside-out too. Ozai's is a different, more evil color than Aang's pure white light. The two energies tangle in an accelerating figure 8 cycle. It is a dazzling display as the two energies wage a battle of light.

The struggle reaches a climax as Aang's energy wins out and Ozai's light is "purified." They snap out of their otherworldly states and Ozai falls to the ground, weakened. He is bewildered and angry and tries to strike at Aang, but no Firebending happens.

AANG
(INHALE)

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(GROANING NOISES)

PLAIN OLD OZAI
What -- what did you do to me?

AANG
(calm)
I took away your Firebending. You can't use it to hurt or threaten anyone else ever again.

AANG (cont'd)
(INHALE)

FIRE NATION SOLDIERS
(TALKING/SURPRISED REACTION)

MOMO
(FLYING NOISE)

Aang Earthbends them both back up to the top of a rock tower. Momo returns, perches on Ozai's shoulder and licks his evil face. At will and under control, Aang's eyes flash into the Avatar state and in an awesome display he puts out the forest fire with a huge surge from the ocean. Ozai watches his evil plot fizzle. Aang stands heroic, looking over the world that is under his protection.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. ROCKY TOWER - NIGHT (WITH FIERY SKY)

The stolen airship pulls up to Aang's position and Sokka, Suki, and Toph jump out. Suki and Toph help a limping Sokka over to Aang. They hug him.

SOKKA
(overly excited)
You did it! You should have seen yourself, it was amazing! You were all like -- (ROCKET AND FIGHTING NOISES) -- and the Firelord was all like -- (PAINED NOISES)

Suki tentatively approaches Ozai, who is on his knees, slumped over against a rock.

SUKI
So did you, you know... finish the job?

Ozai raises his head slowly. He is still very weak.

PHOENIX KING OZAI
I'm still alive.

AANG
I learned there was another way to defeat him and restore balance. I took his bending away.

TOPH
Wow. Who taught you that?

AANG
A giant lion-turtle.

TOPH
You have the craziest adventures when you disappear.

Sokka walks up to Ozai, confident and cocky.

SOKKA
Well, look at you, buster! Now that your Firebending's gone, I guess we should call you... the Loserlord!

PHOENIX KING OZAI
(defiant, yet weak)
I am the Phoenix King!

PHOENIX KING OZAI (cont'd)
(FALLING NOISE)

TOPH
Oh, sorry. Didn't mean to offend you, Phoenix King-of-getting-his-butt-whomped!

Sokka and Toph LAUGH. Suki awkwardly tries to join in.

SUKI
Yeah! Or how about, King of... the guys-who-don't-win?

TOPH
Leave the nicknames to us, honey.

As the fateful day comes to an end, we see Sozin's Comet pass into the distance... the threat is truly, finally, over.

EXT. ESTABLISHING - FIRE NATION CAPITAL - THE NEXT DAY

The city still smoulders from Azula's destruction.

INT. ZUKO'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Zuko, bandaged from his fight with Azula, tries to put on his coronation robe. He WINCES in pain.

MAI (O.S.)
Need some help with that?

Zuko is surprised and happy to see Mai.

ZUKO
Mai... You're okay! They let you out of prison?

MAI
My Uncle pulled some strings. And it doesn't hurt when the new Firelord is your boyfriend.

ZUKO
So, does this mean you don't hate me anymore?

Mai smiles.

MAI
I think it means, I actually kind of like you.

They kiss, then look at each other lovingly.

MAI (cont'd)
(deadly serious)
But don't ever break up with me again.

EXT. CORONATION PLAZA - LATER

All the members of the invasion force are now free. They are gathered for Zuko's coronation. Sokka hobbles with the help of Katara through the crowd to find their dad, passing many familiar faces as they go. They see their Dad chatting with Bato and some other Water Tribe guys.

KATARA/SOKKA
Dad!/Dad!

The siblings run into their Dad at full speed and hug him. It's an emotional reuniting.

HAKODA
I heard what you two did. I am the proudest father in the world.
(beat)
And your mother would be proud too.

Suki and the Kyoshi Warriors approach, wearing their traditional outfits.

SOKKA
There's my favorite warriors. I have to admit, I kind of missed the face paint.

SOKKA (cont'd) *
So, how's it feel to be back in uniform again?

Ty Lee (dressed as a Kyoshi Warrior) jumps forward.

TY LEE
It feels great!

Sokka instinctively pulls Suki away from Ty Lee.

SOKKA
Careful, Suki! Ty Lee's pretending to be a Kyoshi Warrior again!

SUKI
It's okay. She's one of us now.

SOKKA
(FUNNY NOISES)

Sokka and Katara look completely shocked.

TY LEE
Yeah, the girls and I all really bonded in prison. And after a few chi-blocking lessons, they said I could join their group.

Ty Lee puts her arms around the girls.

TY LEE (cont'd)
We're gonna be best friends forever!

INT. CORONATION PLAZA - BACKSTAGE

Aang and Zuko share a moment backstage.

ZUKO
I can't believe a year ago, my purpose in life was hunting you down. And now...

AANG
And now we're friends.

ZUKO
(smiles)
Yeah, we are friends.

AANG
I can't believe a year ago I was still frozen in a block of ice. The world's so different now.

ZUKO
And it's going to be even more different -- we'll rebuild it together.

They embrace.

EXT. CORONATION PLAZA

A GONG SOUNDS and everyone turns their attention to the stage area, where Zuko walks out wearing his coronation robe. The crowd CHEERS. Zuko raises his hand to silence the crowd.

ZUKO
Please. The real hero... is the Avatar!

Zuko turns and gestures to Aang, who walks forward. The crowd CHEERS even louder. Aang stands tall and stoic, looking a little more grown up after what he's been through. Katara looks on proudly, with a loving smile. Zuko addresses the large crowd.

ZUKO (cont'd)
Today, this war is finally over!

CROWD
(CHEERS)

ZUKO
I promised my Uncle that I would restore the honor of the Fire Nation -- and I will.
(beat)
The road ahead of us is challenging -- a hundred years of fighting has left the world scarred and divided. But with the Avatar's help, we can get it back on the right path, and begin a new era of love and peace.

Zuko kneels. The High Sage steps forward and crowns Zuko.

HIGH SAGE
All hail, Firelord Zuko!

Avatar Aang and Firelord Zuko stand together as the crowd bows in honor of them.

EXT. FIRE NATION PRISON - DAY

Zuko walks towards the prison as we have seen him do many times, although now he wears the Fire Lord's robes.

INT. FIRE NATION PRISON

Zuko walks down the familiar hallway and stops at a cell door. He opens the door to reveal his father imprisoned behind bars. Ozai looks tired and beaten, and he barely lifts his head to look at his son entering the room.

OZAI
I should count myself lucky. The new Firelord has graced me with his presence in my lowly prison cell.

ZUKO
You should count yourself lucky that the Avatar spared your life.

OZAI
(DERISIVE SNORT)

ZUKO
Banishing me was the best thing you could have done for my life. It put me on the right path. Perhaps your time in here can do the same for you.

OZAI
(beat)
Why are you really here?

ZUKO
Because you're going to tell me something.

Zuko leans in close to the bars looking very sober and serious.

ZUKO (cont'd)
Where is my mother?

EXT. ESTABLISHING - BA SING SE - A COUPLE DAYS LATER

We see evidence of a fierce and destructive battle. Buildings lie in ruins. Numerous Fire Nation tanks are overturned. The camera pans across the city and comes to the Jasmine Dragon, Uncle's tea shop from season 2.

INT. JASMINE DRAGON - CONTINUOUS

Everyone is gathered for an 'after-party' - Uncle, Zuko, Aang, Katara, Sokka, Toph, Appa, Momo, Mai, and Suki. Uncle plays the tsungi horn. Mai and Suki play pai sho. Zuko (wearing his old tea robe) walks around and serves tea to everyone.

KIDS
(PLAYING NOISES)

KID #1
(PLAYING NOISE)

APPA
(NOISE)

MOMO
(PLAYING NOISE)

SOKKA
Zuko, stop moving! I'm trying to capture the moment.

Sokka sits, painting the happy scene.

SOKKA (cont'd)
I wanted to do a painting -- so we always remember the good times together.

KATARA
That's very thoughtful of you, Sokka.

Katara looks over his shoulder and we reveal the painting: It's a classic Sokka rendering of everyone -- very off-model and childish looking.

KATARA (cont'd)
Wait, why did you give me Momo's ears?

SOKKA
Those are your hair loopies.

Everyone else gathers around to check out their portraits.

ZUKO
(to Katara, re: picture)
At least you don't look like a boar-q-pine!
(to Sokka)
My hair's not that spiky!

MAI
I look like a man.

SUKI
And why did you paint me Firebending?

SOKKA
I thought it looked more exciting that way.

Aang smiles at all his friends and steps outside for a quiet moment alone. The comments continue:

MOMO
(CRITICAL CHITTERS)

SOKKA
Oh, you think you can do a better job, Momo?

MOMO
(ANGRY RESPONSE)

UNCLE
Hey, my belly's not that big anymore! I've really trimmed down.

TOPH
Well, I think you all look perfect!

GROUP *
(LAUGHTER)

Everyone stops for a second, then LAUGHS at Toph's joke.

EXT. JASMINE DRAGON - CONTINUOUS

Aang stands alone, thinking about all that's happened. After a few moments, Katara joins him. They look at each other and smile.

Katara nods. Then, they hug. After a moment, they pull away and look into each other's eyes. A long, dramatic beat. And then... Katara leans in and kisses Aang! He kisses back! Aang and Katara stand on the steps of the Jasmine Dragon, locked in a lover's embrace. KatAang wins!

FADE TO WHITE:

THE END.